

CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

Philadelphia was the first capital of the United States and is a historical city famous for its cultural and educational institutions. It is a vibrant urban area serving a metropolitan population of about 5 million. The University of Pennsylvania is located in west Philadelphia, minutes away from the center of the city, by public transportation.



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Philadelphia Info

Philadelphia, a dynamic place where big city excitement meets hometown charm, awaits your arrival. Famous as the birthplace of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, the cradle of liberty offers much more than cobblestone streets and historical landmarks. Cultural, culinary, artistic and ethnic treasures abound in this city and its surrounding countryside. The fifth-largest city in the country, Philadelphia is a welcoming place, a city based on freedom of expression.

New and one-of-a-kind attractions, a wealth of art and culture, renowned performing arts companies, awe-inspiring architecture, a walkable downtown, seemingly endless shopping (with no tax on clothes) and a restaurant renaissance that has caught the world's attention all promise to create an unforgettable Philadelphia experience.

And, of course, the greatest concentration of American history can be found just blocks away at Independence National Historical Park, including the Liberty Bell and Independence Hall.

Best of all, Philadelphia's compact downtown places all of this and so much more within a short walk or cab ride from the Pennsylvania Convention Center and any downtown hotel.



Culture and Entertainment



During the day, there are plenty of places to play for the entire family. Children and adults love the Philadelphia Zoo, America's first zoo. At the apex of the Benjamin Franklin Parkway sits the majestic Philadelphia Museum of Art and its steps, which Rocky made famous. Nearby are the Rodin Museum, containing the world's finest collection of Rodin sculptures outside Paris, and the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts. At Logan Circle on the Parkway is The Franklin Institute Science Museum, which houses the Benjamin Franklin Memorial and Omniverse

Theater. A block away is The Academy of Natural Sciences and the Please Touch Museum, the nation's first hands-on museum for children seven and younger.

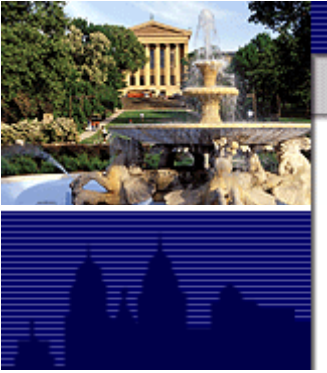
Elsewhere in the city you will find The African American Museum in Philadelphia, the National Museum of American Jewish History; the University Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology; the Independence Seaport Museum, the National Liberty Museum and the Mummies Museum. And the New Jersey State Aquarium and Camden Children's Garden are a quick ferry ride away.

At night, the city dances, sings and dazzles. The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts hosts several resident companies, including the world-renowned Philadelphia Orchestra, Peter Nero and the Philly Pops® and The Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia. The Opera Company of Philadelphia performs at the Academy of Music. The Philadelphia Chamber Music Society presents concerts by exceptional international musicians and collaborative education programs every year.

The Pennsylvania Ballet offers the much-loved "Nutcracker" each December, and many more productions throughout the year. Two of the city's other popular modern dance troupes are PhilaDANCO and the Zero Moving Dance Company.

Broadway is alive and well at The Forrest Theater, The Merriam Theater at the University of the Arts, the Prince Music Theater, the Walnut Street Theater (the oldest English speaking theater in continuous use), the Wilma Theater, and at two major festival series -- the American Music Theater Festival and the Festival Theater for New Plays.

If you are looking for live music, Wachovia Center and Spectrum are two of the busiest indoor arenas in America featuring major concerts. During the summer, the Mann Music Center in Fairmount Park thrives. Other concert venues include the Tweeter Center in Camden and the Keswick Theatre. The most happening street in the city is South Street, where intimate clubs entertain at night with comedy, jazz and rock. Night spots and dance clubs can be found along the Delaware River waterfront.



Restaurants

Everything you've heard is true. Philadelphia's restaurants offer exquisite cuisine, international charm and creative décor. While the city has been home to some of the nation's finest restaurants - including Le Bec-Fin, Fountain Restaurant, Striped Bass and Susanna Foo - for years, a new restaurant renaissance has added spice and excitement. You'll find century-old Italian restaurants serving Old World ambience and authentic recipes. Top grade steak and seafood houses feature fresh cuts and tastes. Cuban, Spanish and South American flavors are plentiful throughout the city. With so many ethnic and international options available, you could call Philadelphia the United Nations of dining. Chinese, Moroccan, Japanese, Indian, Irish, Thai and French are just the tip of the iceberg. Delicious regional American and Philadelphia-style cuisine is also plentiful.

But the food is only part of Philadelphia's dining experiences. Have dinner in architecturally significant buildings or historic rowhomes. Enjoy a meal at a sidewalk cafe or overlooking the waterfront. Dine amidst creative and innovative decor that is as tantalizing as the main course. From Colonial taverns to conveyor belt sushi bars, Philadelphia's dining offers something to please every palate.





No city in the nation tells the story of the American Revolution better than Philadelphia. The region is also rich with 19th century and multi-cultural history.

- **[National Constitution Center](#)**
Independence Mall
(215) 923-0004
The interactive museum is the first dedicated to honor and perpetuate the ideas embodied in the U.S. Constitution. With more than 100 multimedia exhibits, you can watch an oath ceremony video, cast your vote for your favorite president of all time and sign the Constitution. The week-long opening celebration includes Constitution-themed parades, events, lectures and performances throughout the region.
- **[Only One Man Died: Medical Adventures on the Lewis & Clark Trail](#)**
Through 2006
[College of Physicians of Philadelphia](#)
19 S. 22nd Street
(215) 563-3737
In February, 2002, the College unveiled the only major exhibit ever devoted to the health and medical aspects of the Lewis and Clark historic journey in Only One Man Died: Medical Adventures on the Lewis & Clark Trail.
- **[American Philosophical Society](#)**
105 South 5th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106
(215) 440-3400
The finned and the furred, the stuffed and the mounted, the bizarre and the beautiful are all on display in the country's first major natural history museum.
- **[Civil War Library and Museum](#)**
1805 Pine Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103
(215) 735-8196
House museum displaying artifacts, uniforms, flags, weapons and period art and telling of Philadelphia's role in the Civil War.
- **[Christ Church Burial Ground](#)**
5th & Arch Streets
Philadelphia, PA
(215) 922-1695
The burial ground is the final resting place of 1,400 men and women, including five signers of the Declaration of Independence, the founders of the American Navy, America's early medical pioneers - most notably Benjamin Franklin, Dr. Benjamin Rush and Commodore William Bainbridge.
- **[Cliveden House](#)**
6401 Germantown Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19144
(215) 848-1777
Observe war and peace at the site of the October 1777 Battle of Germantown, and of one of America's finest colonial homes.
- **[Fairmount Park Mansions](#)**
(215) 925-TOUR
Lining the hillside of Fairmount Park, these 18th- and 19th century mansions are fine examples of early American homes. Visit via car or trolley tour.
- **[Historical Society of Pennsylvania](#)**
1300 Locust Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107
(215) 732-6200
See the documents of the Pennsylvania Abolition Society that gave birth to the Civil Rights Movement.
- **[Independence National Historical Park](#)**
6th and Market Streets
Philadelphia, PA 19106
(215) 965-7676
(800) 537-7676
Walk through alleys of Franklin Court and Carpenter's Hall, tour Independence Hall or the Betsy Ross House, or gaze at the Liberty Bell. Start at the Independence Visitors Center to pick up a free timed ticket.
- **[Lights of Liberty Show](#)**
6th and Chestnut Streets
Philadelphia, PA 19106
(877) GO-2-1776
Light and sound show retells the Revolutionary story. See historic buildings aglow with five-story projections; hear rifles crackle, horses gallop and patriots debate, via headset. Performances nightly, outdoors. Open Seasonally, closed Sunday and Monday.
- **[Mother Bethel A.M.E. Church](#)**
Lombard Street between 5th and 6th Streets
Philadelphia, PA 19106
(215) 925-0616
Visit the museum and worship space of the oldest piece of land owned continuously by African Americans.
- **[Pennsbury Manor](#)**
400 Pennsbury Memorial Road
Morrisville, PA 19067
(215) 946-0400
William Penn's 1690's country estate, faithfully reconstructed with a manor house, outbuildings, gardens and livestock. Summer Sunday programs include colonial crafts and living history theater.